

# Press Release



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## Fall Camping in North Dakota State Parks

Fall's cooler weather is perfect for camping in North Dakota's state parks. Most state parks with year-round staff offer full camping services, including electrical hookups and hot showers, through September 24.

**Note:** some state parks may be draining campground waterlines earlier than anticipated due to the recent cold weather. Those changes are indicated in red below.

And, with fewer people using the parks, campsite reservations are not needed. Except for Ft. Ransom State Park, the toll-free reservation line closed on September 4. At Ft. Ransom State Park, campsite reservations are available through September 24 by calling the reservation line (800-807-4723). Ft. Ransom State Park is popular with campers attending the Sheyenne Valley Arts and Crafts Festival (SVACA) in the town of Ft. Ransom on September 23-24.

After the end of September, the state's 11 year-round parks will continue to offer limited camping services right up until snow blocks campground access roads. Once water lines are drained and comfort stations closed, off-season camping fees will go into effect. A vehicle entrance permit is required year-round. Following are fall and winter park services. In the event of unseasonable freeze warnings, water lines may be drained earlier than listed.

**Beaver Lake State Park, Napoleon**—The campground comfort station and water lines will be drained September 25. This park has two sleeping cabins available until the end of October.

**Cross Ranch State Park, Center**—The Visitor Center comfort station and showers are open year-round. Electricity will be available at the Sanger Campground until the road is snowed in. Water will be available at both the Sanger Campground and main campground through the end of October, weather permitting. Two primitive log cabins can be rented year-round. Also, the park has a 2-bedroom cabin with bath and efficiency kitchen available from October 1 until May 1. The Visitor Center will be open daily from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. with extended hours on weekends to accommodate campers through October. Weekend interpretive programs will be held throughout September.

**Ft. Abraham Lincoln State Park, Mandan**— **FALSP campground water lines will be drained today, September 18, due to predicted evening low temperatures the next couple of nights. Campsites 39 & 40 have deep buried water lines and will have water available to campers until September 25th.** The park's two sleeping cabins, comfort station and campsite electrical hookups will be available until October 31. Guided history tours will be offered from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily until the end of September; and then from 1-5 p.m. daily until October 15.

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**Ft. Ransom State Park, Ft. Ransom**—Full services, including showers and electrical hookups, canoe and kayak rentals and the Sunne Horse Corral and Camp Area, are available until September 24. After that date, the water lines will be drained and the comfort station and sewer dump station will be closed. Drinking water will be available at a hydrant at Site #1. Facilities open during the off-season will include campsites with electrical hookups and group primitive sites in the West Side Campground; primitive camping in the East Side Campground; Riverside Horse Corral and Camp Area; group picnic shelters and the Hollows Picnic Area; and all park trails.

**Ft. Stevenson State Park, Garrison**—Full camping services and the sleeping cabins will be available through September 24. The park will be closing its modern comfort stations and draining water lines on September 25. Electrical hookups are available year-round. Ft. Stevenson also has a 2-unit efficiency cabin with bath and kitchen available until December 15. Deer bow hunting season in the park opens October 1.

**Grahams Island State Park, Devils Lake**—The park's modern comfort station and water will be available through the last weekend of September, depending upon the weather forecast. Sleeping cabins will be open through October 31. The West Campground and West comfort station closed this weekend (September 10), but one modern campground and the primitive campsites will be operated. Electrical hookups are available year-round. The bait shop will be open until September 17. Deer bow hunting is open in the park in limited areas.

**Icelandic State Park, Cavalier**—All modern comfort stations and the campground water lines will be shut down on September 25. Water is available in the primitive campground year-round. Sleeping cabins can be rented until September 25. Electrical hookups in the campground are available year-round. The Pioneer Heritage Center is open year-round. September hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 1 to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

**Lake Metigoshe State Park, Bottineau**—Lake Metigoshe State Park will have one modern campground loop with comfort station and electricity available through the last weekend in September, depending on Mother Nature. The other modern campground loop was closed after Labor Day. The primitive campground is open until snow blocks access. This park has year-round modern cabins available for rent.

**Lake Sakakawea State Park, Pick City**—The Elbowoods Campground and comfort station are closed. Electrical hookups will be available through the end of November in both the Van Hook and Sanish campgrounds. However, the comfort station in the Van Hook Campground will close September 14. In the Sanish Campground, the comfort station and campground water will be available until September 25. Freezing weather may result in earlier closures. The park's two sleeping cabins will also be available until October 23. Portions of both campgrounds may be temporarily closed for tree removal.

**Lewis & Clark State Park, Williston**—The campground comfort station, electrical hookups and camping cabins are available through September 30. Water lines and the comfort station will be closed October 1, but electrical hookups will continue to be available as needed.

**Little Missouri State Park, Killdeer**—Electrical hookups and water will be available through the end of October, weather permitting.

**Sully Creek State Recreation Area, Medora**—Primitive camping will be available until December 1. Water lines to the hydrants will be drained September 25; however, water can be obtained at the wellhouse. Roads are not plowed.

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**Turtle River State Park, Arvilla**—The north comfort station was closed right after Labor Day. However, the South Comfort Station will remain open until September 24. Campsite water, electrical hookups and the RV dump station will be available until Nov. 2 unless a hard freeze requires earlier drainage. The Woodland Cabins will close for the season on October 1. The park's Woodland Lodge and the upstairs of the Chalet may be rented for group events year-round. Park office hours are generally from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. on weekdays if staff is available. Cross country ski trails, the sledding hill and warming house will open for winter activities once a 6" base of snow has been established.